



Veraldi Instructional Technology Resource Center (VITRC)

About Us



VITRC (<http://www.ltu.edu/vitrc>)

works with faculty to incorporate instructional technologies and teaching strategies to enhance the academic

curriculum and teaching and student outcomes within the university community. It is the responsibility of VITRC to provide leadership through the appropriate integration of these strategies into course delivery which can apply to face-to-face instruction as well as hybrid and online modalities.

For instructional technology assistance and support

Please Contact VITRC at 248.204-3750, vitrc@ltu.edu or visit us at A125.

Who We Are

Dr. Pam Lowry is the Director. She provides leadership for campus-wide initiatives for instructional use of technology in the university community.

Marija Franetovic is the Course Developer. She promotes interactive teaching and learning strategies within different technologies such as Blackboard, Wimba, video streaming, Tablet PCs, etc. As project leader for course development teams, she provides instructional design consulting and assistance to faculty, and develops faculty workshops and resources for course development.

For course design and development consulting Please Contact:

Marija Franetovic, Course Developer, 248.204.3758 | franetovic@ltu.edu

Paula Nranian is the Instructional Technology Specialist. She provides instructional and administrative support specializing in technology integration in education, using Blackboard and other e-Learning technologies, and participating in the development of instructional resources.

Marquita Poinsetta is the Instructional Trainer/e-Learning Support. She provides instructional training, consulting, skill building and other support services to faculty. She also works on developing instructional resources and their delivery.

Linda S. Wareck is the Instructional Technologist. She focuses on working with faculty and staff to integrate the instructional use of technology into the teaching and learning process. Linda specializes in the instructional application of Blackboard.

Bill Drummond is the Instructional Technology Multimedia/e-Learning Specialist for VITRC and Lead Producer for LTU Online.

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Blackboard Learning Management System

Blackboard Learning System and Community Portal Systems (<http://my.ltu.edu>)



Blackboard is a web-based course management system that supports flexible teaching and learning in traditional, hybrid, and online learning. Blackboard provides course, content, and assessment management, as well as tools for virtual collaboration sharing and learning. Information can be shared across colleges and departments, bringing all the great minds of Lawrence Tech University together in one online community. In Blackboard, students can access course materials, download documents, view grades, participate in virtual discussions and much more.

Wimba (<http://www.wimba.com>) is a suite of online communication tools that consist of: WIMBA Live Classroom, WIMBA Voice Boards, WIMBA Voice Email, and WIMBA Podcaster. **WIMBA Live Classroom** is a powerful collaboration application, which is integrated within Blackboard. It allows faculty and students to communicate with multiple modalities, reach diverse learning styles, and build relationships by using state-of-the-art interactive technologies.



NEW in 2008, LTU has the capability to integrate video technology, in addition to chat, voice, interactive questioning, application sharing, and white boarding and other collaboration tools. WIMBA sessions may also be archived, then be available for further student review and accessibility.

Wimba Voice Tools allow vocal interactions to be easily embedded into the page level of Blackboard. They are perfect for creating vocal exercises for language learning.



NEW Blackboard Web 2.0 items include: **Pronto**, a component of WIMBA used for social networking and **Scholar**, an integrated application for social bookmarking.



Respondus (<http://www.respondus.com>) is a campus-licensed offline authoring tool for creating, converting, and managing exams and surveys. These can be printed to paper or published directly to Blackboard. Respondus offers time savings for ease of creating online tests.



Respondus LockDown Browser (<http://www.respondus.com>) is **NEW in 2008**, a custom browser that locks down the online testing environment within Blackboard. When students take an online test, they are prevented from printing, copying and accessing URLs or other applications.



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SafeAssign (<http://www.safeassign.com>) is a plagiarism prevention service integrated within Blackboard. It is used to evaluate submitted student papers against Internet information sources for unoriginal content.



Blackboard Course Cartridges (<http://cartridgecatalog.blackboard.com>) are course content and resources developed by textbook publishers that can be imported into Blackboard and used for course development. The VITRC coordinates locating and installing Bb course cartridges for faculty.



Agilix Backpack (<http://backpack.agilix.com>) is software that enables students to download all content from their Blackboard course sites for access. Students can work off-line, and then load their work to Blackboard after reattaching to the network.

For Respondus and LockDown Browser, SafeAssign, or Course Cartridges, Please Contact Linda Wareck, Instructional Technologist
248.204.3756 | wareck@ltu.edu or VITRC at 248.204.3750 | vitr@ltu.edu.

Instructional Technology Equipment and Software



Tablet PCs are a **NEW 2008 initiative for the entire campus.** Faculty and students at Lawrence Tech receive new Tablet PCs for use during their studies.

Pen Tablets (<http://graphire4.com>) allow one to use a pen mouse. These may be borrowed from the VITRC office.

eBeam Interactive USB Electronic Whiteboard (<http://www.e-beam.com>) With eBeam Interactive, instructors may control their computer from the front of the classroom. It connects to the laptop, enabling capturing, saving, projecting, printing, beaming and sharing whiteboard notes and drawings with anyone, anywhere in real-time. **Speechi** (<http://www.speechi.net/speechi/site%5Fus/>) in association with eBeam, records PowerPoint microphone presentations and plays them online in Flash format.

Impatica (<http://www.impatica.com>) is campus-licensed software that converts and downsizes narrated PowerPoint slide presentations into streaming video content. Large file sizes can be compressed for uploading into Blackboard.

Software available for use to all campus users on 15 machines in the Denso T221 Lab:

Macromedia StudioMX (<http://adobe.com/products/studio>) is a web development package including Dreamweaver, Flash, Fireworks and Freehand.

Captivate (<http://www.adobe.com/products/captivate/>) is a screen capture and editing tool used to prepare interactive Flash format training materials.

NEW on the 2008 laptop image: Microsoft Office 2007

FREE software such as CMAP, PBwiki, Blogger, Second Life, Facebook, etc.

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Instructional Technology Facilities and Technologies OnDemand/Live Video Streaming, Video Conferencing and Collaboration

Denso Instructional Technology Lab (T221) includes streaming video and webcasting capabilities and video conferencing equipment. It may be used to enhance the teaching and learning process in the University community by utilizing technology & different teaching strategies. Examples include pre-recorded lectures for content review and reuse, or pre-recorded lectures for when faculty may be away at a conference.

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Denso Collaboration Room (E26) is equipped with Impulse™ LTX Multimedia Whiteboard System (multimedia whiteboard), CopyCam Pro Image Capturing System (image capturing system), huddle boards, and oval tables for collaboration. This room can be utilized for moderated discussions with electronic records of proceedings. Examples include strategic planning, project reviews, committee meetings, and engineering design sessions for student teams, faculty and staff teams, advisory boards, invited industry teams, and other Lawrence Tech groups.

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248.204.2339 | poinsetta@ltu.edu or VITRC at 248.204.3750 | vitr@ltu.edu.

On-Demand Video Streaming (<http://www.ltuvitrc.com>) technology allows for pre-recorded lectures that are delivered one-way. Faculty and students may view video and listen to audio of any class conducted in the Denso Instructional Resource Lab (T221) from the internet anytime, anywhere. Faculty may also teach live and record it for later viewing.

Live Video Streaming or Webcasting (<http://www.ltuvitrc.com>) technology allows participants to access a class or presentation that is being conducted live in the Denso Instructional Technology Lab (T221) from anywhere in the world over the Internet. It provides audio and video to multiple locations. Participants may ask questions "live" by sending an email to the presenter. It can also be recorded for subsequent review.

T221 Live Video Conferencing (<http://www.ltuvitrc.com>) technology broadcasts live and interactive audio and video, allowing participants to simultaneously see and hear each other via TV monitors or a large computer projection screen. Remote locations require equipment that supports video conferencing. Over 100 academic institutions in Michigan have video conferencing rooms, as do many businesses for training, meetings, or other communication uses with remote locations. An added feature at LTU, however, is the ability to record these sessions for subsequent on-demand streaming.

For assistance with video streaming and conferencing, Please Contact
Marquita Poinsetta, Instructional Trainer/e-Learning Support
248.204.2339 | poinsetta@ltu.edu or Paula Nranian, Instructional Technology Specialist, 248.204.3750 | nranian@ltu.edu

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